Michael Detmar obtained his M.D. degree from the University of Freiburg, Germany and performed his training in dermatology at the Free University of Berlin where he was appointed Assistant Professor of Dermatology. He served as faculty member at Harvard University in Boston, USA, from 1993 to 2006. In 1998, he was appointed Associate Professor of Dermatology at Harvard Medical School and Principal Investigator at the Cutaneous Biology Research Center, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA. Since 2004, he has been a Professor and Chair at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, ETH Zurich, where he currently leads a research team as professor emeritus. Dr. Detmar's lab has pioneered studies of the role of cutaneous blood and lymphatic vessels in skin health, aging, inflammation and cancer.

He has received several prestigious awards, including the 2005 Marion B. Sulzberger Memorial Award and Lectureship of the American Academy of Dermatology and the 2007 Rudi Cormane Memorial Lectureship of the European Society for Dermatological Research. In 2015, he was elected as a member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. He is the author of more than 300 original publications and of several licensed patents.